

REMARKS

Claims 103-113 are now present in this application, claims 1-102 are cancelled and new claims 103-113 being added by the present Preliminary Amendment. It should be noted that the replacement of original claims 1-102 with new claims 103-113 are non-narrowing amendments, made solely to place the claims in proper form for U.S. practice and not to overcome any prior art or for any other statutory considerations.

Conclusion

Accordingly, in view of the above amendments and remarks, an early indication of the allowability of each of claims 103-113 in connection with the present application is earnestly solicited.

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact John A. Castellano at the telephone number of the undersigned below.

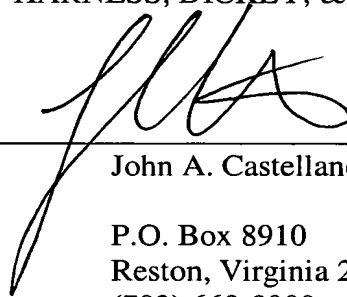
NEW APPLICATION
Docket No.: 36731-000040/US

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 08-0750 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

HARNESS, DICKY, & PIERCE, P.L.C.

By

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'JAC', written over a horizontal line.

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